THE HONORABLE THOMAS S. ZILLY 1 2 3 4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 5 FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 6 7 BUNGIE, INC., a Delaware corporation, Cause No. 2:21-cv-0811 TSZ 8 **Plaintiff DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR** 9 RELIEF FROM DEADLINE 10 FOR DISCLOSURE OF v. EXPERT TESTIMONY AIMJUNKIES.COM, a business of unknown 11 classification; PHOENIX DIGITAL GROUP **Note on Motion Calendar:** 12 LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; May 12, 2023 JEFFREY CONWAY, an individual; DAVID 13 SCHAEFER, an individual; JORDAN GREEN, an individual; and JAMES MAY, an individual, 14 Defendants. 15 16 For reasons stated herein, Defendants, by and through their undersigned counsel, 17 respectfully request that the date for disclosing expert testimony relating to Defendants' 18 Counterclaims be extended from November 21, 2022 to May 26, 2023. 19 This request is made in light of the following: 20 1. This Court's June 14, 2022 Scheduling Order (Dkt#33) set November 21, 2022 21 as the deadline for Disclosure of expert testimony under FRCP 26(a)(2). 22 It was not until February 3, 2023 that this Court ordered (Dkt.# 84) that 2. 23 Defendants' amended counterclaims could proceed. 24 3. Prior to then, Plaintiff Bungie refused to provide discovery into matters 25 relating to the counterclaims on the basis that such discovery was not relevant to any of the 26 Furthermore, Bungie's Motion to Dismiss Defendants' Amended pending issues. 27 28

Counterclaims (Dkt#74) itself makes several factual allegations that this Court noted would likely be addressed during a motion for summary judgment.

- 4. Although this Court in its February 14, 2023 Minute Order (Dkt#86) set back the trial date by approximately six month and extended other dates, the order did not change the previously set deadline of November 21, 2023 for disclosing expert testimony.
- 5. After this Court's February 3, 2023 Order allowing Defendants' counterclaims to proceed, Defendants' served discovery requests directed to those counterclaims. On April 13 and May 1, 2023 Bungie responded to those discovery requests.
- 6. The deadline for disclosing expert testimony relating to the counterclaims should be extended in order to permit Defendants' Expert to analyze the information provided by Bungie for the first time in April and May, 2023, long after the prior November 21, 2023 deadline, which could not have been done earlier in light of Bungie's motions to dismiss Defendants' counterclaims.
- 7. This Court has wide discretion to extend the date for expert disclosure and should extend the date where justice so requires and no prejudice will result.
- 8. Prejudice will result if Defendants are not provided an opportunity to present expert testimony related to their counterclaims. In particular, Bungie alleges it did not conduct any sort of investigation into the alleged "Cheat Software" at issue here and, in particular, conducted no technical analysis of the "Cheat Software" as doing so would violate the applicable Terms of Service imposed by Defendant Phoenix Digital. Document produced by Bungie and designated by Bungie as "Highly Confidential," however, demonstrate otherwise. Because Bungie has labeled these documents "Highly Confidential," they cannot under the terms of the applicable protective order be shared with Defendants. As Defendants cannot see and address them directly and only can do so by way of expert testimony, denying an opportunity for Defendants to present expert testimony as to these issues arising after expiration of the prior expert disclosure deadline will work a hardship and injustice on Defendants. Extending the deadline, however, will not materially prejudice Bungie, particularly where, as here, Bungie has done its best to stymie Defendants' counterclaims.

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9. Significantly, on April 21, 2023, five months after the November 21, 2022 deadline for serving expert reports, Bungie, itself, served the "supplemental" report of its expert, Mr. Drew Voth, addressing issues relating to the counterclaims. To date, Bungie has offered no explanation as to why these matters could not have been addressed by the November 21, 2023 deadline.

For all the foregoing reasons, Defendants respectfully request that deadlines for serving expert disclosures relating to Defendants' counterclaims be filing discovery motions and completing discovery into the counterclaims be extended to May 26, 2023. Such action by this Court is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATION UNDER RULE 26(C)(1)

On April 11, 12, 17 and May 3, 2023, Plaintiff's counsel, Mr. William Rava and I exchanged a series of emails regarding the issues raised in this motion, but despite good faith efforts could not reach agreement. Undersigned counsel offered to speak by telephone regarding these issues but Mr. Rava indicated such would not be necessary, and that Bungie would not accuse Defendants of having failed to comply with Rule 26(C)(1).

Dated May 4, 2023.

<u>/s/ Philip P. Mann</u>

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